

# Media Release

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*Imagine that!*

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## **Stratford Launches Book Commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the End of First World War**

The Town of Stratford is marking the centenary of the end of the First World War in a special way - with a book honouring the lives of a number of our veterans from the Great War. The launch of *"We will remember them": Stratford Heroes of the First World War* will take place on November 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm at Stratford Town Centre.

The book is a project of the Stratford Heritage Committee, a group composed of council members and resident volunteers, with the book including contributions of information, photos, and stories from a number of Stratford families.

The idea for the book began with research into the history of Bunbury which took place prior to the 1995 amalgamation of area communities into the current Town of Stratford. Beginning with a list of names of local men contributed from memory by an area senior, the project has evolved and grown into one that includes the 46 stories of veterans – 45 men and 1 woman – from all areas of Stratford. The book required careful research, writing, and editing, but the result has been worth the wait.

"We are very proud of this project," said Mike Farmer, Chair of the Heritage Committee. "And we are so pleased to see it in print and ready to share with Stratford residents and other Islanders who want to learn more about the experiences of ordinary Canadians in the First World War."

Each year leading up to Remembrance Day the Town of Stratford displays posters of veterans in area bus shelters as well as our Stratford Heroes display at Stratford Town Centre. The Stratford Heritage committee members are pleased to add stories of those and other veterans who gave up everything to serve "King and Country" more than 100 years ago, through the launch of this book.

"Through the launch of this book and the other Stratford Heroes displays the Town proudly puts up each year, we are continuing to remember those who served, and continue to serve our great country," commented Stratford Mayor David Dunphy. "We congratulate everyone who has been involved with this book project."

All are invited to attend the book launch on Wednesday, November 7th at 7:00pm at Stratford Town Centre. The event is open to the public and will include an address by UPEI history professor, Dr. Ed MacDonald, light refreshments, and a book sale.

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